

POLICE FORENSIC SCIENTIST

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

This class comprises a highly responsible, non-supervisory position, the primary duties of which include performing DNA analysis on evidence collected from crime scenes, reviewing the DNA casework of peers, communicating scientific findings to law enforcement agencies, and serving as an expert witness in court in the area of forensic DNA. The employee of this class works with little supervision and reports to and has work reviewed by a Police Sergeant.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Analyzes and interprets evidence gathered at crime scenes. Performs scientific examinations on drugs, toxicological samples, blood, trace evidence, and crime scene investigations. Analyzes biological specimens with the use of DNA analysis. Utilizes DNA extraction, quantitation, and amplification as part of the analysis process. Conducts database queries to compare CODIS DNA profiles in the Local, State, and National DNA Indexing System. Generates investigative leads based on DNA evidence found at crime scene.

Writes reports and maintains records of the analysis process. Summarizes and interprets data, and formalizes interpretation in report to be reviewed by peers. Reviews forensic DNA casework of peers as required by federal standards. Communicates scientific findings to law enforcement agencies. May assist investigators with DNA collection at crime scenes. Serves as an expert witness in court in the area of forensic DNA.

Operates scientific equipment such as chromatographs, spectrometers, and microscopes. Operates calculators, personal computers and other office machines used in connection with the preparation of DNA analysis. Maintains cleanliness, safety, security and organization of laboratory and work area. Maintains knowledge of applicable laws, evidentiary procedures, and regulatory codes. Attends continuing education training involving forensic DNA.

Performs any related duties assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements listed below must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Must possess a Bachelor's Degree in chemistry, forensic science, biology, biochemistry, microbiology, toxicology, or a related field with college coursework in biochemistry, genetics and molecular biology.

Must possess a valid driver's license.